

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Helmling et al.  
Appl. No.: 10/522,582  
Conf. No.: 6124  
Filed: May 24, 2006  
Title: GHRELIN BINDING NUCLEIC ACIDS  
Art Unit: 1635  
Examiner: Tracy Vivlemore  
Docket No.: 116676-002

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is in response to the Office Communication mailed 27 August 2007. The Examiner set a thirty-day period for response, making the due date for reply 26 September 2007. Attached hereto and herein incorporated by reference is a Petition for a four-month extension, making the due date for response 28 January 2008, 26 January 2008 falling on a Saturday.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.